

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 135
Judiciary

(Delegate Grosfeld)

Judicial Proceedings

Family Law - Marriage Ceremonies - Judges

This bill authorizes a “judge” to perform a marriage ceremony in the State.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill would not directly affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill is not expected to significantly reduce county revenues from marriage ceremonies performed by court clerks. Expenditures would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A marriage ceremony may be performed in the State by:

- an official of a religious order or body authorized by the rules and customs of that order or body to perform a marriage ceremony;
- a clerk of a circuit court; or
- a deputy clerk of a circuit court designated by the county circuit court administrative judge.

By statute, the clerk’s or deputy clerk’s fee for performing a marriage ceremony is \$25 (in Cecil County, the fee is \$30); \$10 of this fee goes to the county general fund. The remainder is retained by the clerk, and in some counties, a portion is paid to a historical society.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City; Calvert, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – January 25, 2001
ncs/jr Revised – House Third Reader – March 22, 2001

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